

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/777,520

Art Unit.: 1774

Applicant: BITLER, Steven P.

Examiner: Ferguson, Laurence D.

Filing Date: 02/12/2004

Title: Article Having Temperature-Dependent Shape

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Sir,

Applicant respectfully notes that each of the independent claims contains features not specified, which in combination with the features specified also render the claimed invention patentable. For example, claims 1 and 12 require that the first polymeric composition comprises a crystalline polymer and a peak melting temperature which is at least  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$  and at most  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$ . In addition, there are features in dependent claims which, in combination with the features in the corresponding independent claim, also render the dependent claims patentable. Just as examples, claims 2, 3 and 13 specify the amount of volume expansion of the first polymeric composition relative to the second composition; and claims 8 and 15 require a fiber which is relatively straight at temperatures above  $T_p$  and becomes curved when cooled from a temperature above  $T_p$  to a temperature below  $T_o$ .

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/16/07

  
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Jeffrey G. Sheldon  
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